

Living Landscapes

We actively seek to provide opportunities for students and teachers to interact with the natural world on a regular basis, in order to grow a greater understanding and appreciation of it, and be moved to take an active part in the restoration of ecosystems, advocacy for nature and strive collaboratively to find and implement practical solutions.

Within our school grounds, we:

- Continue to enhance our school grounds through native dryland planting, to restore and learn about local native ecosystems.
- Maintain a pest tracking and biodiversity monitoring programme around the school, linking into the Predator Free Schools network.
- Maintain our school grounds with the aim of keeping it spray-free, with no or minimal use of toxic chemicals.

In general, and as part of our curriculum, we:

- Investigate, experience and seek to understand our local ecosystems and biodiversity and use these as a context for learning and development in other curriculum areas.
- Give our students and teachers opportunities to appreciate the natural world through Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC), on camps, daytrips and class outings.
- Provide opportunities for our students to understand environmental issues from a broader lens and different perspectives.
- Seek opportunities to work in collaboration with relevant community groups and experts and to learn from local tangata whenua and other key stakeholders, considering their perspectives and wisdom.
- Promote opportunities for students and teachers to advocate for practical solutions to environmental issues (such as through participating in forums, submissions, letters to the editor and meeting community leaders).

Around our local community, we look for opportunities to learn and participate in environmental initiatives, such as:

- Maintaining our Manuherekia water monitoring.
- Taking part in events that promote and enhance our natural environment (such as World Environment Day, our local Thyme Festival, and local plantings).
- Adopting local areas to enhance and maintain within our community (such as through clean-ups, plantings, and pest and weed control).